

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 BANGKO 16502 081616Z  
ACTION HA-05

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /006 W  
-----116480 081621Z /41  
O 081250Z JUN 78  
FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5989  
INFO USMISSION GENEVA IMMEDIATE

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STADIS//////////

GENEVA FOR LOWMAN

EO 11652: NA  
TAGS: SREF  
SUBJ: CUT-OFF DATE FOR CATEGORY I ELIGIBILITY FOR  
LAND REFUGEES

REF: STATE 144013

1. SEPTEL PROVIDES AN EMBASSY ESTIMATE OF 2100-2600  
LAND REFUGEES WHO WOULD BE ELIGIBLE UNDER CATEGORY  
I IF A 9 JUNE 1978 CUT-OFF DATE WERE ADOPTED. THE  
PROPOSED 9 JUNE 1978 CUT-OFF DATE OF ARRIVAL IN THE  
UNITED STATES FOR CONFERRING ELIGIBILITY ON REFUGEE  
RELATIVES STILL IN THAILAND WOULD PERMIT SOME REFUGEES  
TO GAIN ARBITRARY ADVANTAGE OVER OTHERS. EMBASSY STRONGLY  
BELIEVES THAT THE CUT-OFF DATE FOR CATEGORY I ELIGIBILITY  
SHOULD BE PRIOR TO THE ARRIVAL OF THE FIRST IPP-77 LAND  
REFUGEES IN THE US. BOTH IN TERMS OF FAIRNESS AND  
CLARITY, A CUT-OFF DATE WHICH TREATS ALL IPP-77  
REFUGEES IN THE SAME MANNER IS VASTLY PREFERABLE.

2. IN THE EMBASSY'S VIEW, THE BEST CUT-OFF DATE FOR  
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CONFERRING CATEGORY I ELIGIBILITY WOULD THEREFORE BE  
11 AUGUST 1977. SOME IPP-77 LAND REFUGEES MOVED AS  
EARLY AS SEPTEMBER 1977. BY 1 JANUARY 1978, OVER 100  
HAD DEPARTED FOR THE US. OUR SECOND CHOICE WOULD BE  
THE 1 JANUARY 1978 CUT-OFF DATE BECAUSE RELATIVELY FEW  
REFUGEES IN THAILAND WOULD BECOME ELIGIBLE. SUBSTANTIAL  
IPP-77 LAND REFUGEES MOVEMENTS TO THE UNITED STATES

STARTED TAKING PLACE IN MARCH. OUR THIRD CHOICE WOULD BE 1 MARCH 1978. A CATEGORY I CUT-OFF DATE AFTER 1 MARCH AND UP UNTIL 9 JUNE WOULD ARBITRARILY BENEFIT A SUBSTANTIAL NUMBER OF REFUGEES AND DISADVANTAGE RELATIVES OF THE IPP-77 LAND REFUGEES STILL IN THAILAND.

3. AS A POINT OF LAST RESORT, WE COULD LIVE WITH 18 MARCH 1978, THE DATE THAT INS COMPLETED LAND INTERVIEWS UNDER IPP-77. THAT DATE MIGHT BE MORE ARGUABLE THAN 1 JANUARY OR 1 MARCH.

4. FROM A PRACTICAL STANDPOINT, DEPARTMENT SHOULD BE AWARE THAT IF THE ELIGIBILITY-CONFERRING DATE IS ESTABLISHED AS OF JUNE 9, OR ANY DATE SUBSEQUENT TO OUR MOST RECENT PRE-SCREENING, WE WOULD HAVE TO CONDUCT ANOTHER ROUND OF PRE-SCREENING BEFORE INS APPROVALS COULD TAKE PLACE. THE PRE-SCREENING WOULD BE NECESSARY IN THE INTERESTS OF JUSTICE TO PROVIDE AN OPPORTUNITY FOR ALL POTENTIAL ELIGIBLES FROM AMONG RECENT ARRIVALS TO REGISTER.  
WHITEHOUSE

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 08 jun 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Office:** ACTION HA  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** STADIS  
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**Subject:** CUT-OFF DATE FOR CATEGORY I ELIGIBILITY FOR LAND REFUGEES  
**TAGS:** SREF  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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